INTERVENERS: “DO WITH, NOT FOR”

Who are interveners?
- Paraprofessionals with specialized training in deafblindness who work 1-on-1 with a student who is deafblind
- Those who are credentialed by the National Resource Center for Paraeducators or who are actively working toward the credential

Who do interveners work with?
Students who:
- Have a combined vision and hearing loss and are likely to have additional disabilities
- Need consistent 1-on-1 support to participate in/access activities and enhance their independence
- Require support for communication, language interactions, concept development, curricular modifications, sensory losses, etc.
- Require support to connect with and interact with others
- May not otherwise access or attend to instruction

What do interveners do?
- Provide access to auditory and visual information
- Facilitate communication, language, and concept development in students who are deafblind
- Maintain a trusting, interactive relationship to promote social and emotional well-being
- Help students who are deafblind reach their potential
- Work with the team to increase educational outcomes

Research:

This document was developed using the National Center on Deaf-Blindness fact sheet entitled “Definition of Intervener Services and Interveners in Educational Settings,” the Utah State University fact sheet entitled “Educational Interveners for Children Who are DeafBlind,” and the DeafBlind Central fact sheet entitled “Comparison of Possible Supports for Students who are DeafBlind.”